

in order to allow their value to increase; but in January, 1888, a number of sections were offered for sale at several points in the province, when 19,986 acres were disposed of for the sum of \$140,189, being an average of nearly \$7.30 per acre, and again in January, 1892, 53,030 acres were sold by auction, and realized \$421,518, being an average of \$7.95 per acre.

Educational statistics, Manitoba.

609. The progress of education in Manitoba has been very rapid, as the following figures show. The figures previous to 1890 are for Protestant schools only:—

EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS OF MANITOBA, 1871, 1887, 1888, 1889 and 1890.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Teachers.	School Population.	Number of Pupils.	Average Attendance.
1871	16	816
1887	464	581	17,600	16,940	9,715
1888	495	675	18,850	18,000	9,856
1889	524	668	21,471	18,358	11,242
1890	627	840	*25,077	23,256	11,627

Progress in educational facilities.

610. The school age is 5 to 16 years, inclusive, and from the above table it will be seen that the average attendance was 50 per cent. Figures such as these not only demonstrate the wonderful progress of the province during the last 20 years, but must also effectually dissipate any ideas that intending settlers might have about the difficulty there would be in educating their children, and must convince them that life on the prairies does not mean life without the most important benefits of civilization. There is a Normal School, at Winnipeg, for the training of teachers, at which the attendance in 1888 was 150, in 1889, 157, and in 1890, 81.

Receipts and expenditure.

611. The expenditure in 1890 amounted to \$388,981, of which \$115,391 were paid by Government, and \$255,089 by municipal taxes. The total receipts amounted to \$426,705. The amount of debenture indebtedness was \$454,546, and the value of the school sites, houses and furniture was estimated at \$647,355.

Education in British Columbia.

612. The educational system of British Columbia is free, undenominational, and supported entirely by the Government. There is a Superintendent of Education, acting under the Provincial Secretary, and each school is locally controlled by trustees, elected by the ratepayers of each school district. The Lieutenant Governor in Council is em-

*Incomplete.